

CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A receipt management article of manufacture comprising:
a storage medium configured to store receipt data from multiple disparate vendors;
communications logic for establishing a communicative link between the system and receipt data processing logic disposed within individual ones of said multiple disparate vendors; and,
a receipt management processor programmed to moderate access to said storage medium.
2. The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein said storage medium comprises a portable mass storage device.
3. The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein said storage medium further comprises a configuration for indexing said store receipt data according to at least one of a vendor identifier and a transaction identifier.
4. The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein said communicative link comprises a wireless link.

5. The article of manufacture of claim 1, further comprising security and authentication logic programmed to secure access to said receipt data through at least one of encryption, password protection and certificate validation and authentication.
6. The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein each of said storage medium, communications logic and receipt management processor is disposed in a pervasive device.
7. The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein each of said storage medium, communications logic and receipt management processor is disposed in a personal article.
8. The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein said personal article comprises a key chain fob.
9. A method for electronic receipt management comprising the steps of:
 - establishing a communicative link between a data store of electronic receipts from multiple disparate vendors, and an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors;
 - authenticating said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors;
 - locating a specific electronic receipt stored within said data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors; and,

transmitting said located specific electronic receipt to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors over said established communicative link.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of configuring a wireless communications link with said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of configuring a wirebound communications link with said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of inserting a portable storage medium containing said data store into a reader coupled to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

13. A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for electronic receipt management, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

establishing a communicative link between a data store of electronic receipts from multiple disparate vendors, and an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors;

authenticating said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors;

locating a specific electronic receipt stored within said data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors; and,

transmitting said located specific electronic receipt to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors over said established communicative link.

14. The machine readable storage of claim 13, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of configuring a wireless communications link with said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

15. The machine readable storage of claim 13, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of configuring a wirebound communications link with said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

16. The machine readable storage of claim 13, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of inserting a portable storage medium containing said data store into a reader coupled to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.